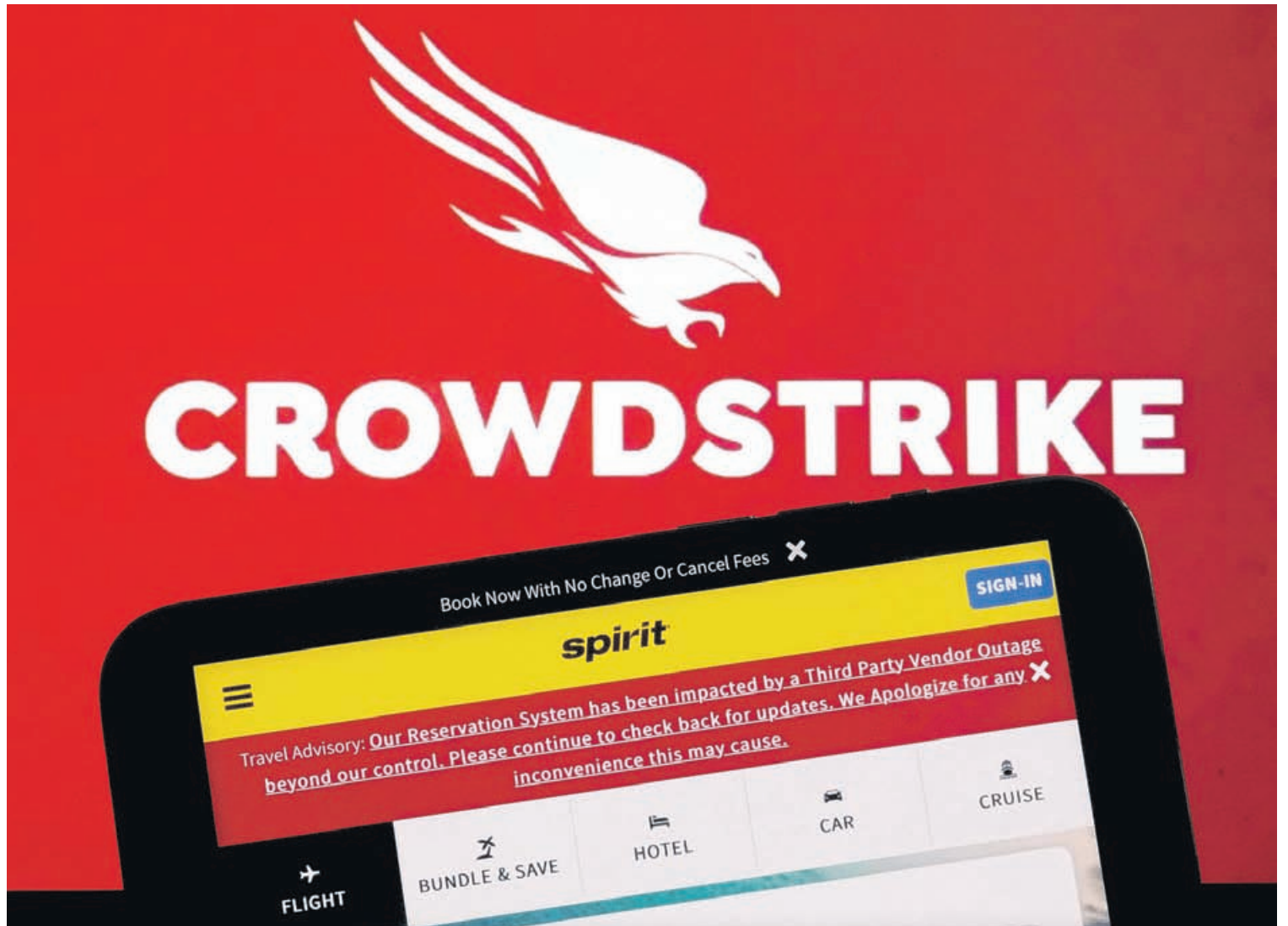


Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

A faulty software update causes havoc worldwide for airlines, hospitals and governments

By C. GRAHAM-McLAY,
ELAINE KURTENBACH, DAVID
McHUGH and H. HADERO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A faulty software update caused technological havoc worldwide on Friday, grounding flights, knocking down some financial companies and news outlets, and disrupting hospitals, small businesses and government offices. The breadth of the outages highlighted the fragility of a digitized world dependent on just a few providers for key computing services. The trouble was sparked by an update issued by cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike and only affected its customers running Microsoft Windows, the world's most popular operating system for personal computers. It was not the result of hacking or a cyberattack, according to CrowdStrike, which apologized and said a fix was on the way.



Continued on Page 2

The logo for CrowdStrike and a Spirit Airlines webpage are shown on a computer screen and mobile phone screen, in New York, Friday, July 19, 2024.

Associated Press

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A faulty software update causes havoc worldwide for airlines, hospitals and governments



People walk by blacked out screens due to a global technology outage in Times Square, Friday, July 19, 2024, in New York. **Associated Press**

Continued from Front

Businesses and governments worldwide experienced hours-long disruptions — their computer monitors glowing blue with error messages — and scrambled to deal with the fallout. CrowdStrike's CEO said some of their systems will require manual fixes. Thousands of flights were canceled and tens of thousands were delayed, leading to long lines at airports in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Airlines lost access to check-in and booking services in the heart of the summer travel season.

Several local TV stations in the U.S. were prevented from airing the news early Friday, and some state and local governments reported problems at courts, motor vehicles departments, unemployment agencies, emergency call centers and other offices. Affected hospitals had problems with appointment systems, forcing them to suspend patient visits and cancel some surgeries.

Alison Baulos said her 73-year-old father's heart surgery in Paducah, Kentucky was canceled Friday morning because of the tech outage, leaving her family scared and worried.

"It does really make you just realize how much we rely on technology and how scary it is," Baulos said in an interview. She said her father was waiting at Baptist Hospital to find out what will happen next. A phone message left with the hospital was not immediately returned.

American Express said it temporarily had some difficulties processing transactions, while TD Bank responded to online complaints by saying it was working to "restore" customers' ability to access their accounts.

Elsewhere, people experienced minor inconveniences, including trouble ordering ahead at Starbucks, causing long lines to form at some of the coffee chain's stores.

In New York City's Times Square, right before 12:30 a.m., the blue "recovery" screens popping up on laptops appeared on several giant electronic billboards. A few were dark Friday afternoon.

A disturbing reminder of vulnerability Cyber expert James Bore said real harm would be caused. "All of these systems are running the same software," Bore said. "We've made all of these tools so widespread that when things inevitably go wrong — and they will, as we've seen — they go wrong at a huge scale."

The head of Germany's IT security agency, Claudia Plattner, said "we can't expect a very quick solution." A forecast for when exactly all systems will be up and running is difficult, but "it won't be hours," she added.

CrowdStrike said in a recording on its customer service line that the problem was related to "the Falcon sensor," referring to one of its products used to block online attacks. The company says it has 29,000 customers.

In an interview on NBC's "Today Show," CrowdStrike CEO George

Kurtz apologized, saying the company was "deeply sorry for the impact that we've caused to customers, to travelers, to anyone affected by this, including our companies."

"We know what the issue is" and are working to fix it, Kurtz said. However, he noted it could take "some time" for customers needing a manual fix, which could be burdensome for businesses and government offices that don't have adequate in-house expertise. Shares of the company, which is based in Austin, Texas, fell nearly 10% on Friday. Microsoft's stock price fell more than 3%.

Though the outage's impact could be felt far and wide, the forecasting firm Capital Economics said it was likely to have little impact on the world economy.

Cybersecurity experts said those affected by the outage also needed to be wary of bad actors reaching out claiming they can help. "Attackers will definitely prey on organizations as a result of this," said Gartner analyst Eric Grenier.

Air travel delayed everywhere Most airlines attributed the problems to their booking systems. Thousands of flights were affected in the U.S. alone, though by late morning on the East Coast airlines said they were beginning to mitigate problems and resume some service.

At Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, Sarah Schafer was delayed getting to her cousin's 50th birthday party in Florida. She had been wait-

ing for almost three hours with no indication of when her flight would be rebooked.

"I seem calm," said Schafer, who was using a cane because of ankle injury. "But my angry side might come out." Airlines and railways in the U.K. experienced long wait times. And airports across Europe suspended landings or halted takeoffs for several hours due to difficulties in checking in passengers.

Saskia Oettinghaus, a member of the German Olympic diving team, was among those stuck at the Berlin Airport.

"We are on our way to Paris for the Olympic Games and now we are at a standstill here for the time being," Oettinghaus said.

Other athletes and spectators traveling to Paris were delayed, as were their uniforms and accreditations, but Games organizers said disruptions were limited and didn't affect ticketing or the torch relay. Broadcasters go dark, surgeries delayed, 'blue screens of death'

In Australia, national news outlets — including public broadcaster ABC and Sky News Australia — were unable to broadcast on their TV and radio channels for hours. Some news anchors went on air online from dark offices, in front of computers showing blue error screens. Internet and phone providers were also affected. In the U.S., KSHB-TV in Kansas City, Missouri, aired Scripps News instead of local news until about 5:35 a.m., the stations said on its website. IT teams and engineers worked through the night to resolve the glitch, the station said. Other local stations owned by Scripps reported similar problems, though Scripps spokesman Michael Perry said in an email early Friday that 90% of stations were able to air local news.

Hospitals in different countries also reported problems.

Britain's National Health Service said the outage caused problems at most doctors' offices because appointment and patient-record systems were affected.

At Mass General Brigham, the largest health care system in Massachusetts, all scheduled non-urgent surgeries, procedures, and medical visits were canceled Friday because of the outage, according to a spokesperson. Some international shipping was disrupted, too.

A major container hub in the Baltic port of Gdansk, Poland said it was battling problems. And at the twin ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, marine terminals were affected, although the outage didn't cause significant disruptions. □

Majority of Democrats think Kamala Harris would make a good president, AP-NORC poll shows

By SEUNG MIN KIM and LINLEY SANDERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Joe Biden faces a growing drumbeat of pressure to drop his reelection bid, a majority of Democrats think his vice president would make a good president herself.

A new poll from the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that about 6 in 10 Democrats believe Kamala Harris would do a good job in the top slot. About 2 in 10 Democrats don't believe she would, and another 2 in 10 say they don't know enough to say.

Since Biden's debate debacle on June 27, many Democrats have privately and even openly looked to Harris to step in and succeed Biden as the party's presidential nominee, believing she has a better chance against GOP nominee Donald Trump. For her part, Harris has remained completely loyal to Biden, being one of his toughest defenders in the aftermath of the disastrous debate performance.

Oakley Graham, a Demo-



Vice President Kamala Harris arrives for an Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote Town Hall, Saturday, July 13, 2024, in Philadelphia.

crat in Greenwood, Missouri, said while he is "pretty happy" with Biden's accomplishments in office, he felt that he would be more excited to support Harris at the top of the ticket and that it was "about time" a woman becomes president.

"I know he's got unfinished business," Graham, 30, said of Biden. "But it would be nice to see a person of col-

or, a woman, somebody younger to step up and to lead that charge. I would hope that that would inspire a younger generation to be more engaged."

Black adults a key contingent of the Democrats' coalition and a group that remains relatively more favorable to Biden than others are more likely than Americans overall to say that Harris would do well.

As for Americans more broadly, they are more skeptical of how Harris would perform in the Oval Office. Only about 3 in 10 U.S. adults overall say Harris would do well as president. About half say Harris would not do a good job in the role, and 2 in 10 say they don't know enough to say. Harris' favorability rating is similar to Biden's, but the share of Americans who

have an unfavorable opinion of her is somewhat lower. The poll showed that about 4 in 10 U.S. adults have a favorable opinion of Harris, while about half have an unfavorable opinion. There are more Americans with a negative view of Biden: approximately 6 in 10. About 1 in 10 Americans say they don't know enough to have an opinion of Harris, whereas nearly everyone has an opinion on Biden.

About three-quarters of Democrats have a positive view of Harris, which is in line with how Democrats view Biden.

Seven in 10 have a favorable view of him.

Shannon Bailey, a Democrat who lives in Tampa, praised Biden's accomplishments as president particularly with his infrastructure law and efforts to tame inflation and said he'll be "remembered fondly." But she had a more favorable view of Harris than she does the incumbent president because, in Bailey's view, the vice president appears more "capable of handling the taxing nature of the job." □

Associated Press

Blinken points to wider pledges to support Ukraine in case U.S. backs away under Trump

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

ASPEN, Colo. (AP) — Ukraine is on its way to being able to "stand on its own feet" militarily, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday, noting that more than 20 other countries have pledged to maintain their own military and financial aid to the country even if the U.S. were to withdraw its support under a different president.

Blinken for the first time directly addressed the possibility that former President Donald Trump could win the November election and back away from commitments to Ukraine. The U.S., under President Joe Biden, has been the most important supporter of

Ukraine's more than two-year battle against invading Russian forces.

Trump's public comments have varied between criticizing U.S. backing for Ukraine's defense and supporting it, while his running mate, Sen. JD Vance, has been a leader of Republican efforts to block what have been billions in U.S. military and financial assistance to Ukraine since Russia invaded in 2022.

Concerns among Ukraine and its supporters that the country could lose vital U.S. support have increased as Trump's campaign surges and Biden's falters.

Blinken said Friday that any new administration would have to take into account strong bipartisan backing

in Congress for Ukraine in the interests of countering Russian President Vladimir Putin's attempts to expand Moscow's territory and influence.

"Every administration has an opportunity, of course, to set its own policy. We can't lock in the future," Blinken said, speaking to an audience of U.S. policymakers and others at the Aspen Security Forum in Colorado.

But he pointed to the security agreements that the United States and more than 20 other allies including some NATO partners, Japan and the European Union signed at a NATO summit in Washington this month. "Were we to renege on that I suppose

that's possible, but happily we've got another 20 some-odd countries that are doing the same thing," Blinken said.

Ukraine itself was on a trajectory to ensure it "stands on its own feet militarily, economically, democratically," Blinken said. □



Secretary of State Antony Blinken speaks to the press after a bilateral meeting with Panamanian Foreign Minister Javier Martinez Acha at the State Department in Washington, Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Associated Press

U.S. appeals court allows EPA rule on coal-fired power plants to remain in place amid legal challenges

By **MATTHEW DALY**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a victory for President Joe Biden's administration, a federal appeals court on Friday ruled that a new federal regulation aimed at limiting planet-warming pollution from coal-fired power plants can remain in force as legal challenges continue.

Industry groups and some Republican-led states had asked the court to block the Environmental Protection Agency rule on an emergency basis, saying it was unattainable and threatened reliability of the nation's power grid.

The EPA rule, announced in April, would force many coal-fired power plants to capture 90% of their carbon emissions or shut down within eight years. The rules are a key part of the Democratic president's pledge to eliminate carbon pollution from the electricity sector by 2035 and economy-wide by 2050.



Steam billows from a coal-fired power plant Nov. 18, 2021, in Craig, Colo.

Associated Press

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit rejected the industry request to block the rule, saying the groups had not shown they are likely to succeed on the merits. Nor did the case invoke a ma-

ajor question under a previous Supreme Court ruling, since the EPA claimed only the power to "set emissions limits ... that would reduce pollution by causing the regulated source to operate more cleanly," the appeals court ruled.

The unanimous ruling also rejected the claim of immediate harm, saying compliance deadlines do not take effect until 2030 or 2032.

The ruling was issued by Judges Patricia Millett, Cornelia Pillard and Neo-

mi Rao. Millett and Pillard were appointed by President Barack Obama, a Democrat, while Rao was named to the court by President Donald Trump, a Republican.

Environmental groups hailed the ruling, saying the court recognized the EPA's legal responsibility to control harmful pollution, including from greenhouse gas emissions. The power sector is the nation's second-largest contributor to climate change.

"Americans across the nation are suffering from the intense heat waves, extreme storms and flooding and increased wildfires caused by climate pollution," said Vickie Patton, general counsel of the Environmental Defense Fund, which filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case. The EDF and other groups "will continue to strongly defend EPA's cost-effective and achievable carbon pollution standards for power plants," she said. □

Ten Commandments won't go in Louisiana classrooms until at least November as lawsuit plays out

By **KEVIN MCGILL**

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Louisiana won't take official steps to implement a law requiring the Ten Commandments be placed in all of the state's public school classrooms until at least November as a lawsuit makes its way through the courts,

according to an agreement approved by a federal judge Friday.

The suit was filed in June by parents of Louisiana public school children with various religious backgrounds, who said the law violates First Amendment language forbidding government establishment of religion and guar-

anteeing religious liberty. Backers of the law argue that the Ten Commandments belong in classrooms because the commandments are historical and are part of the foundation of U.S. law.

The Louisiana law requires the commandments be posted no later than Jan. 1, a deadline unaffected by Friday's agreement. The deal assures that the defendants in the lawsuit state education officials and several local school boards will not post the commandments in classrooms before Nov. 15, and won't make rules governing the law's implementation before then.

Lester Duhe, a spokesman for Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill, said the defendants "agreed to not take public-facing compliance measures until November 15" to provide time for briefs, arguments and a ruling. In 1980, the U.S. Supreme

Court ruled that a similar Kentucky law violated the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution, which says Congress can "make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

The high court found that the law had no secular purpose but rather served a plainly religious purpose.

In 2005, the Supreme Court held that such displays in a pair of Kentucky courthouses violated the Constitution.

At the same time, the court upheld a Ten Commandments marker on the grounds of the Texas state Capitol in Austin.

Louisiana's new law does not require school systems to spend public money on Ten Commandments posters. It allows the systems to accept donated posters or money to pay for the displays.

The law also specifically authorizes but does not require other postings in public

schools, including: The Mayflower Compact, which was signed by religious pilgrims aboard the Mayflower in 1620 and is often referred to as America's "First Constitution"; the Declaration of Independence; and the Northwest Ordinance, which established a government in the Northwest Territory in the present day Midwest and created a pathway for admitting new states to the Union.

The legal challenge to the law came soon after it was signed by Republican Gov. Jeff Landry, a Republican who succeeded two-term Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards in January.

Landry's inauguration marked a full takeover of state government by the GOP in a Bible Belt state where the party already held other every statewide elected position and a supermajority in the Legislature. □



A copy of the Ten Commandments is posted along with other historical documents in a hallway of the Georgia Capitol, Thursday, June 20, 2024, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Drought threatens millions of children as school dropouts rise along with hunger in southern Africa

By FARAI MUTSAKA

Associated Press

MUDZI, Zimbabwe (AP) —

It's Tuesday morning, and 5-year-old Talent should be in school. Instead, he's foraging for the fruit that his family is counting on for food now that crops have withered in the heat.

Blame the El Nino phenomenon that altered weather worldwide for over a year, or the larger problem of climate change that's bearing down on the African continent, the region most vulnerable to it. The boy's grandmother, Winnie Chihota, knows she's watching part of a generation slip away.

For many in Zimbabwe's rural northeastern Mudzi district, crops mean survival. When they fail, the future can, too. No income means no way to pay the \$25 for school fees or for school uniforms. Two of Chihota's own children are at risk of leaving school. Little Talent never had a chance to start.

No crops also mean nothing for the children to eat for lunch even if they do make it to class.

"One child fainted recently at the school due to hunger," Chihota said, as she sorted through the fruit that Talent and other children brought home. The fruit will be dried for future meals. Many families now only eat one solid meal of corn or sorghum a day.

Children are the most at risk after El Nino, a naturally occurring climatic phenomenon, caused some of the hottest days in decades in parts of southern and eastern Africa. It also caused some of the worst flooding in memory.

It destroyed many of the tiny farm plots that keep families going. More than 60% of Zimbabwe's population of around 15 million reside in rural areas where agriculture is the major source of food and income.

The immediate concern is hunger. In Zimbabwe, 580,000 children are at risk of malnutrition, according to the United Nations



Villagers fetch water from a makeshift borehole in Mudzi, Zimbabwe, on July 2, 2024.

Associated Press

children's agency, as the effects of El Nino worsen a humanitarian crisis of economic hardship and outbreaks of diseases such as cholera. The larger problem is the children's education. School has become a luxury. Children drop out to work. Teenage girls are forced to skip class because there is not enough water to wash during their periods, or because they must stay home to babysit their siblings as parents go out in search of work. Some girls are forced to marry to ease financial burdens, according to the U.N humanitarian agency.

The crisis is overshadowed by others in places like Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan, humanitarian organizations say, meaning that funding from donors can be hard to come by.

"There should be a sense of urgency," said Yves Willemot, UNICEF spokesman for Zimbabwe.

The drought puts the education of close to 2 million children at risk in Zimbabwe, with some dropping out of school for good and others forced to miss class, the U.N. humanitarian agency has said. More than 45,000 children dropped out of school during the previous El Nino in the 2015-2016 farming season, 3,000 more than the annual average, it said. The government is still collating figures for this lat-

est El Nino.

Regional countries also devastated by weather extremes face similar challenges. In Malawi, hit by a vicious cycle of floods and drought in the past three years, fewer children are attending class. At some schools, half the pupils are usually absent, according to a report in May by local and international humanitarian organizations including the Malawi-based Youth Net and Counselling. "Families must choose between feeding or sending children to school," the report said.

Volunteer teachers are no longer reporting at some schools "further deteriorating the quality of education." □



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Top U.N. court says Israel's presence in occupied Palestinian territories is illegal and should end

By **MIKE CORDER**

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The top U.N. court

said Friday that Israel's presence in the occupied Palestinian territories is "unlawful" and called on it to end and for settlement construction to stop immediately, issuing an unprecedented, sweeping condemnation of Israel's rule over the lands it captured 57 years ago.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu quickly denounced the nonbinding opinion issued by the 15-judge panel of the International Court of Justice, saying the territories are part of the Jewish people's historic "homeland." But the resounding breadth of the decision could impact international opinion and fuel moves for unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state.

The judges pointed to a wide list of policies, including the building and expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, use of the area's natural resources, the annexation and imposition of permanent control over lands and discriminatory policies against Palestinians, all of which it said violated international law. The court said Israel had no right to sovereignty in the territories, was violating international laws against acquiring territory by force and was impeding Palestinians' right to self-determination. It said other nations were obliged not to "render aid or assistance in maintaining" Israel's presence in the territories. It said Israel must end settlement construction immediately and that existing settlements must be removed, according to a summary of the more than 80-page opinion read out by court President Nawaf Salam.

Israel's "abuse of its status as the occupying power" renders its "presence in the occupied Palestinian territory unlawful," the court said, saying its presence must be ended as "rapidly as possible."



Palestinian foreign policy advisor Riad Malki meets one of the Israeli team members before judges enter the International Court of Justice, or World Court, in The Hague, Netherlands, Friday July 19, 2024, where the United Nations top court is delivering a nonbinding advisory opinion Friday on the legality of Israel's 57-year occupation of lands sought for a Palestinian state, a ruling that could have more effect on international opinion than it will on Israeli policies.

Associated Press

The court's opinion, sought by the U.N. General Assembly after a Palestinian request, came against the backdrop of Israel's devastating military assault on Gaza, which was triggered by the Hamas-led attacks in southern Israel on Oct. 7. In a separate case, the International Court of Justice is considering a South African claim that Israel's campaign in Gaza amounts to genocide, a claim that Israel vehemently denies.

The court said the General Assembly and Security Council where staunch Israeli ally the United States holds a veto should consider "the precise modalities" to end Israel's presence in the territories.

Israel, which normally considers the United Nations and international tribunals as unfair and biased, didn't send a legal team to the hearings. Instead, it submitted written comments, saying that the questions put to the court are prejudiced and fail to address Israeli security concerns. Israeli officials have said the court's intervention could undermine the peace process, which has been stagnant for more than a decade.

"The Jewish people are not conquerors in their own land not in our eternal

capital Jerusalem and not in the land of our ancestors in Judea and Samaria," Netanyahu said in a statement issued by his office, using the biblical terms for the West Bank. "No false decision in The Hague will distort this historical truth and likewise the legality of Israeli settlement in all the territories of our homeland cannot be contested."

Speaking outside the court, Riad Malki, an adviser to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, called the opinion "a watershed moment for Palestine, for justice and for international law." He said other nations must now "uphold the clear obligations" outlined by the court. "No actions of any kind ... to support Israel's illegal occupation."

Israel captured the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip in the 1967 Mid-east war. The Palestinians seek all three areas for an independent state.

Israel considers the West Bank to be disputed territory, whose future should be decided in negotiations, while it has moved populations there in settlements to solidify its hold. It has annexed east Jerusalem in a move that isn't internationally recognized, while it withdrew from Gaza in

2005 but maintained a blockade of the territory after Hamas took power in 2007. The international community generally considers all three areas to be occupied territory.

The court's decision strikes at the heart of the ambiguity of Israel's administration of the territories. Israel hasn't annexed the West Bank though settler groups have pressed it to do so but it calls it part of its homeland and has effectively treated it as an extension of the nation. Along with the settlements, it has appropriated large swaths of the territory as "state lands." At the same time, Netanyahu's government has repeatedly rejected the creation of any Palestinian state. Abbas' Palestinian Authority has been restricted to control over divided enclaves scattered around the West Bank.

The Palestinians presented arguments at hearings in February, along with 49 other nations and three international organizations. In the hearings, Malki accused Israel of apartheid and urged the United Nations' top court to declare that Israel's occupation of lands sought by the Palestinians is illegal and must end immediately and un-

conditionally for any hope for a two-state future to survive.

Erwin van Veen, a senior research fellow at the Clingendael think tank in The Hague, said before the decision that a ruling that Israel's policies breach international law would "isolate Israel further internationally, at least from a legal point of view."

He said such a ruling would remove "any kind of legal, political, philosophical underpinning of the Israeli expansion project." It could also increase the number of countries that recognize a Palestinian state, in particular in the Western world, following the recent example of Spain and Norway and Ireland, he said.

It's not the first time the ICJ has been asked to give its legal opinion on Israeli policies. Two decades ago, the court ruled that Israel's West Bank separation barrier was "contrary to international law." Israel boycotted those proceedings, saying they were politically motivated.

Israel says the barrier is a security measure.

Palestinians say the structure amounts to a massive land grab, because it frequently dips into the West Bank.

The court said that Israel's construction of settlements in the West Bank violated international laws prohibiting countries from moving their population into territories they occupy.

Their residents are Israeli citizens governed by domestic law and served by government ministries, services, banks and other businesses — effectively integrating them into Israel.

Israel also has annexed east Jerusalem and considers the entire city to be its capital. An additional 200,000 Israelis live in settlements built in east Jerusalem that Israel considers to be neighborhoods of its capital. Palestinian residents of the city face systematic discrimination, making it difficult for them to build new homes or expand existing ones. □

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our “Dorado”

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the “Dorado”, a common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Dorado.

Dorado has many different names it can be referred to. Dral, Dorao, Drals, Drado, are some of them in Papiamentu. In English, it is also called Mahi Mahi, Dolphinfish, or Dorado. It's a good example to reflect on why there can be many names. The same fish becomes known by different common names, why? Common names come only when a group of people, to understand each other, assign a name to a fish. Mahi Mahi, for example, comes from Hawaii and means “very strong”. Dorado is based on Spanish and refers to the golden yellow color that the fish shines with under the sun. Why it's called Dolphinfish in English is not well defined and



while there are several stories around this, none have been confirmed.

Dorado is found in all tropical to subtropical oceans around the world. Dorado is very popular both for recreational fishing and for consumption. It is known among fishermen as an exciting catch and a fish that puts

up a good fight. Its meat is very good for consumption and it is also commercially fished for that reason.

They grow very fast, up to 2.7 inches (almost 7 cm) per week. They can live up to a maximum of 5 years although very few reach that age. Most become adults within 1 year but many be-

come reproductive after just 5 or 6 months and reproduce very quickly too.

They live in open water on the surface most of the time. Many fish seek them around sushi lines or floating objects on the sea. Often you will find a group landing together and if you keep a male on the line, often the others will

stay close or can keep the group interested by giving shrimp or squid.

Description:

Dorado has a distinctive body. It has a large tail and its long, flat body ends in a large blunt head. Its color of yellow and green or blue makes it immediately recognizable, even with small variations in these colors.

Dorado has clear differences between adult females and males. The male is larger and can easily reach 50 to 80 pounds and has a much flatter head compared to the female. Therefore, male Dorados are also called “bull Dorado”.

Dorado can be found in our waters around the island all year round, but there are periods when it is easier to find than others.

Source: The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).

Birds of Aruba

ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation will focus on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful

pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundation's Facebook page.

The Great Egret

Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful things start happening in nature.



Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started moving southwards as early as July. This wetland beauty wants to keep its toes warm. Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowlegs rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochon

In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight.



A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male)
Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannetje).

Aruba's to enjoy. Aruba's to protect. □



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Restaurant Review: Infini Aruba

Nestled in the heart of Aruba, **Infini Aruba** has emerged as a culinary beacon since the pandemic, setting new standards in fine dining. I had the pleasure to experience the new season menu firsthand and, I can confidently say that this establishment has redefined the gastronomic landscape with its unique philosophy of utilizing only fresh, unprocessed ingredients. This approach not only elevates the natural flavors but also emphasizes a profound respect for the integrity of the ingredients themselves.

We were welcomed and greeted in the open patio with champagne, which is next to the pool area at the Blue Residences. Upon entering Infini Aruba, one is immediately struck by the serene and elegant ambiance. The decor is a harmonious blend of contemporary chic and natural elements, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. The open kitchen concept allows diners to witness the meticulous preparation of their meals, adding an element of transparency and trust.

The menu is a testament to the chef's Urvin ingenuity and dedication to purity. Each dish is crafted with an artistry that highlights the natural flavors and textures of the ingredients. The absence of heavy spices and sauces places a greater emphasis on the freshness and quality of the produce, which is sourced locally and sustainably. The menu consisted of 8 dishes and this is the eleventh menu prepared by Chef Urvin.

Our meal began with a dish called Pasa Palo di Lechuga which translated from Papiamentu to English is pasapalo (small bites) of lettuce. An exquisite medley of vibrant, crisp lettuce in the form of a tart alette taco and Croquet, providing a refreshing crunch, are complemented by delicate herbs to enhance the natural purity and earthiness of the greens.

The second dish, my favorite of the night, consisted of king fish, in a smoked eel leche tigre, consisting of Kaffir, anchovies, and yellow beets, creating a delightful

balance of flavors and textures. A succulent dish with an array of flavors prepared of which I am still craving for more. As a matter of fact, all of the dishes except one.

My wife's favorite dish was the scallops, prepared with such precision that their natural sweetness shone through. Prepared with fermented carrots, giving the acidity needed for the dish, banana di rif, foraged on the beach in front of the restaurant.

I am not a fond fan of mushrooms but we have Aruban mushrooms.

For the main course, we had two exceptional dishes, the Quail which was concocted using Asian flavors with a unique quail topped egg fried rice and was perfectly seared infused with a subtle smokiness from the grill. The other dish was one a tender Prime Sirloin served with a confit potato covered with a creole salsa.

Dessert was a fitting finale to this culinary journey. The first dessert was a delicate fruit sorbet, capturing the essence of tropical freshness. The second was a rich, velvety carrots cake mousse served with bolo preto ice cream (Black Cake); the carrot cake comes in the shape of a carrot in a planter. Not to be compared with any other traditional ice cream desserts. If you want to get a taste of what authentic Aruban deserts taste like than you need to try this.



The service at Infini Aruba is impeccable. The staff is attentive and knowledgeable, providing insightful recommendations and ensuring that each guest feels pampered. Their passion for the restaurant's philosophy is evident, adding to the overall exceptional dining experience.

Infini Aruba is more than just a fine dine restaurant; it is a sanctuary for those who appreciate the art of fine dining in its purest form. The commitment to using only

fresh, unprocessed ingredients results in dishes that are not only flavorful but also nourishing and true to their essence. This establishment has set a new benchmark in the culinary world, making it a must-visit for any discerning food lover. This restaurant is a resemblance of Traditional Caribbean food served on the island of Aruba. Being a world traveler and one who surely likes good cuisine strongly recommends this restaurant as the ultimate Hallmark of excellence cuisine to visit. □



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive?

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Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina",

and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box."



Source: "*E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao*" by

Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé. □

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Divi Aruba All Inclusive Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on be-



half of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors
Mr. Keith & Mrs. Rachel Ingham from Shrewsbury Massachusetts, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tour-

ism Authority, and staff members of Divi Aruba All Inclusive Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba makes you feel safe.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "We love our Resort"
- "Friends that we have on the Island"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

The stories of "Compa Nanzi"

(Oranjestad)—The most popular character you may hear about in the Caribbean is Anansi, known locally on Aruba as "Compa Nanzi". Local children grew up hearing the tales of the conniving spider, and his legacy forms part of the oral narrative tradition that is common in Aruba.

Although the stories are most popular in the Caribbean, "Compa Nanzi" is not entirely unknown globally, especially not in the West African region. Brought to the "new world" by enslaved Africans from Ghana, the historical thread of how Nanzi was introduced on Aruba follows the enslaved Africans in Curaçao during the colonial era, which saw the biggest population of enslaved Africans in the Dutch Caribbean.

The stories of Compa Nanzi were a sign of hope for freedom among the slaves, who passed around different stories involving the famous spider through word of mouth, due to not being able to express their native culture in the new world. These stories were a way to

not only preserve their culture, but it acted as a medium for relief during the harsh treatment to which they were subjected to.

It wasn't until the end of the nineteenth century that the stories of Nanzi were written down in different languages. However, not all stories are completely alike in every country, as is the risk of oral story telling. However, one thing will always be dominant in Compa Nanzi's stories: his sneaky ways to get what he wants!

How Nanzi fooled the king
One day Nanzi was taking a stroll near the castle of Shon Arei, the king. He had this sudden urge to walk in. He didn't think too much about it and committed to what he had in mind. It was a warm afternoon, and the castle personnel were taking their afternoon nap. Even the soldier guarding the castle door was fast asleep, snoring so loud that his beard bounced up and down on his chin. Nanzi just slipped past him, looked back for a moment then walk right on in.

Nanzi stumbled upon the king's quarters. With all his excitement he sat in the

king's throne, and put on his crown that was hanging on the side of the throne. It was very hot that day, and it wasn't long until Nanzi too fell asleep, right there on the king's throne. He was so deep in sleep and snoring so loud, that even when the king found him in his seat, Nanzi did not even notice.

Shon Arei was flabbergasted by the sight of Nanzi on his throne, wearing his crown. How disrespectful! "Soldiers, get him!" he commanded. Nanzi was sound asleep, but when the soldiers picked him up, he jumped from fright. By then though, the soldier already had him in their hold. "Put him in a sack, stitch it up and throw him in the ocean!" the king said furiously. Two soldiers immediately entered the chamber, took the crown off Nanzi's head and pushed him in a sack.

Nanzi was terrified; it looks like this time he won't get away with his schemes. To get to the ocean, the soldier walked a long distance, and where beginning to feel very thirsty. Luckily they passed by a



pub, and decided to have a nice cold beer. They set the sack with Nanzi in it outside and went to enjoy the refreshments. Nanzi was still trembling with fear in the sack.

What is that he hears? A herd of sheep walking by? "Compadre, listen here!" Nanzi screamed as loud as he could. The sheep herder got close to the sack. "What is this?"

"Man, there is something very beautiful in here that you can see. It's very rare and strange, but indeed, there is something so beautiful in here that you've never seen or will ever see," Nanzi told the herder.

The herder, very dumb, believed Nanzi's word. "Let me see!" he said.

"Well if you must insist," Nanzi said, "I'll let you take a look, but only for a quick second." The herder opened the sack, and Nanzi immediately jumped out. Before the herder could even take a look into the sack, Nanzi pushed him in it, and the herder fell head first in.

Nanzi didn't waste any time, and closed off the sack real tight. He then picked up the herder's hat and starting walking behind the traveling sheep as if nothing happened. After a little while, the soldiers headed back outside to continue their journey. As they picked up the sack, the poor herder started screaming to let him out, but the soldiers ignored him, thinking it was Nanzi.

Shon Arei went strolling a while later. He thought to himself: "This time Nanzi could not get away with his foolishness. He probably drowned in that sack ages ago." That is why, when he saw Nanzi walk behind the herd of sheep on the street, he was flabbergasted again. "Nanzi! Aren't you suppose to be at the bottom of the ocean floor?"

"I was, Your Majesty," Nanzi replied. But you know what, there is so many things to see down there in the sack! Like this herd of sheep. Seeing that they had no herder, I started walking behind them and gained their trust pretty quickly. At the bottom of the ocean there are so many wonderful things, like diamonds, and bags of gold. Chests of silver and other precious stones," Nanzi told the king.

"What is that you say?" the king was intrigued. "I want to see it too!"

The king immediately demanded to his soldiers to be put in a sack and be placed in the ocean. Naturally, Shon Arei died because of this. He was never found again. Nanzi followed the soldier back to the castle, where sat once again on the late king's throne and put his crown on. He took possession of all of Shon Arei's belongings, and lived the rest of his life as king.

Story and pictures are from "Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)" by Nilda Pinto. □



Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never had heard of, but really healthy and delicious.

Mispel

This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

Kenepa



Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

Druif



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of

fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

Tamarind



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

Comcomber chiquito

This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vitamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

Pampuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pampuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 News item

1 Innocent ones 41 Fresh 42 Takes ten

6 Glider wood

11 Dodge

12 Modify

13 Europe's longest river

14 Complete

15 Bays

17 Pitcher's stat

18 Jargon suffix

19 Glues down

22 Toper

23 Mario Puzo book

24 Bird-related

25 Hushed

27 Hosp. sections

30 Army bigwig

31 Fellows

32 Lowly worker

33 Ornate style

35 "House-boat" star

38 Poll goer

39 Kitchen come-on

DOWN

1 Quail

2 Slugger Pete

3 Printer's dot

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5 Upholstery protector

6 Diamond club

7 Hoopla

8 Hidden

9 Athens rival

10 Heavens supporter

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30 Army bigwig

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Yesterday's answer

3 Printer's dot	16 Discus-sion	26 Overtures
4 Keeness	group	27 Hams
5 Upholstery protector	20 Steak-house	28 New
6 Diamond club	patron	29 Derisive
7 Hoopla	21 Direction	30 Charity
8 Hidden	suffix	dos
9 Athens rival	24 Hearty	34 Inlet
10 Heavens supporter	25 Lady of Spain	36 Print units
		37 Opposing vote

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4-27

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

SO WYDCD'E J YDJZDP OMC

LD, S'L EHCD SW YJE J

VDJFY JWWJFYDU WM SW.

— QSLLG VHOODWW

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AIM FOR THE HIGHEST CLOUD SO THAT IF YOU MISS IT, YOU WILL HIT A LOFTY MOUNTAIN. — MAORI PROVERB

Cruise ship Schedule: July 01 - July 30 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
THU	04	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	10	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
WED	17	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	30	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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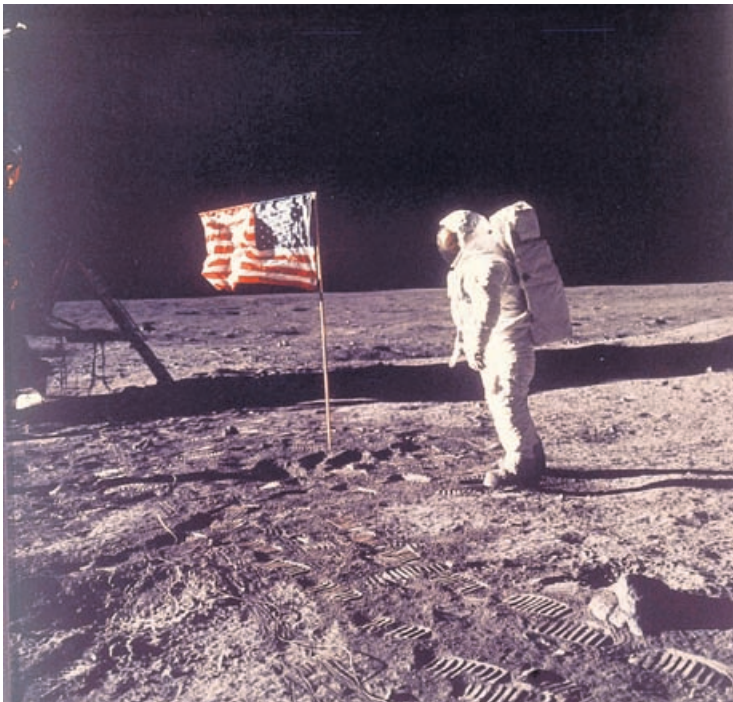
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Moon fests, moon movie and even a full moon mark 55th anniversary of Apollo 11 landing



In this photo provided by NASA, astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin poses for a photograph beside the U.S. flag deployed on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission on July 20, 1969.

Associated Press

**By MARCIA DUNN AP
Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.
(AP)** — The cosmos is providing a full moon for the 55th anniversary of the first lunar landing this weekend, and plenty of other events honor Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's giant leap. Aldrin, 94, the last surviving member of the Apollo 11 crew, headlines a gala at the San Diego Air and Space Museum on Saturday night. He'll be joined by astronaut Charlie Duke, who was the voice inside Mission Control for the July

20, 1969 moon landing. Museum President Jim Kidrick couldn't resist throwing a bash "55 years to the day of one of the most historic moments in not only the history of America, but in the history of the world." Can't make it to San Diego, Cape Canaveral or Houston? There are plenty of other ways to celebrate the moon landing, including the new film "Fly Me to the Moon," a light-hearted lookback starring Scarlett Johansson. And you can explore all things Apollo 11 on a special website

by the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. If nothing else, soak in the full moon Saturday night into Sunday morning. Here's a rundown of some Apollo 11 tributes: 'The Eagle has landed' NASA's Kennedy Space Center is holding a moon fest at its tourist stop, just a few miles from where the Saturn V rocket thundered away with Armstrong, Aldrin and Michael Collins on July 16, 1969. Houston's Johnson Space Center, home to Mission Control,

is also getting into the act. Four days after they left Earth, Armstrong and Aldrin, in their lunar module, Eagle, settled onto the Sea of Tranquility at 4:17 p.m. Eastern with barely any fuel remaining. "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed," Armstrong radioed from 240,000 miles (386,000 kilometers) away. □

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'Longlegs' star Maika Monroe's secret to success in Hollywood is a healthy relationship to it

By KRYSTA FAURIA

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — One of the few moments of levity in "Longlegs" the Neon horror film in theaters now about a Satanist serial killer happens when Maika Monroe's character, Lee Harker, meets her co-worker's young daughter.

It's obvious the analytical FBI agent doesn't spend a lot of time around kids. Her stoic, awkward personality is comically heightened by this interaction with the child, who asks Harker to do things she obviously has no interest in, like seeing the girl's bedroom or coming to her birthday party.

Critics have praised the 31-year-old's "Longlegs" performance which says something when you share the screen with Nicolas Cage. But her calculated, offbeat character is even more impressive given Monroe's affable, almost whimsical personality.

"There's a kind of child-like quality to her that is extremely compelling and graceful and charming," said Cage of his co-star.

Her endearing approachability is perhaps at least somewhat attributable to the fact that she has always kept Hollywood at arm's length. "I don't necessarily like being fully consumed in



Maika Monroe, a cast member in the film "Longlegs," poses for a portrait at the London Hotel, Tuesday, June 25, 2024, in West Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

this world," Monroe said in a recent interview.

Neither of her parents work in the entertainment industry and only reluctantly agreed to start driving her to Los Angeles from Santa Barbara for auditions as a kid while she balanced school and her kiteboarding hobby. And instead of obsessing about getting her big break after years of trying, Monroe took some time away to be a professional kiteboarder in the Dominican Republic when she was 17.

"I was pretty much like, 'Acting just isn't for me.' I go to classes, I work on my lines, I work so hard for these auditions, and I feel like I'm doing all the things and it just isn't clicking," Monroe recalled. "It was so frustrating. And it was getting to a place where it just wasn't feeling good anymore."

But she wasn't ready to give up entirely. Although she got rid of her agent, Monroe kept her manager, who would occasionally encourage her to send in audition tapes.

In almost a year, she only sent in four or five. She didn't hear anything back until she did.

Monroe enjoyed being a professional athlete and said it gave her a healthy perspective on her career, but as soon as she was cast in "At Any Price" alongside Zac Efron and Dennis Quaid, she rushed home. Soon after, her big break did come with David Robert Mitchell's 2014 cult indie horror film, "It Follows."

"There's been so many ups and downs and so many

times where I question, like, 'What the hell am I doing here?' And it's such a tough industry, just mentally," she admitted. "There's been probably two other times throughout my career where I'm like, 'I can't do this anymore.' And yet I just keep getting pulled back. And at the end of the day, I feel like this is what I'm meant to be doing and this is what I'm good at."

Rather than look back on her time as a kiteboarder as a detour, Monroe said it was formative, especially since she competed at a time in the sport when women were considerably outnumbered. "I'm so grateful for the strength that I felt. I felt powerful and strong. And it was just like a very important experience for me," she said.

Superstition makes her reluctant to admit it, but she said this feels like a turning point in her career. She is set to reprise her role as Jay Height for Mitchell's "They Follow," which is scheduled to begin production early next year. But Monroe said she initially worried a sequel 10 years later might just be a cash grab or ruin the original. "I was like, 'Oh no' ... because it was just so iconic at that time when it came out and the way that it ended," she said. "But I

always had faith in David. He's so particular about what he does. Clearly, he does barely anything because he's so picky. It has to be on his terms, his scripts. And yeah, I read it, and I was like, 'Oh, okay. This is how you do it.' So, I have high hopes." Although "It Follows" and "Longlegs" have been Monroe's most high-profile horror films to date, her list of acting credits within the genre is an extensive one. "I want a goddamn rom-com. Come on. Good God. What am I doing?" she joked about her reputation as a scream queen, but said that she's happy to stay in the world of scary movies if it means continued creative fulfillment.

Young adult novel by Brian Selznick, 'Run Away With Me,' to be published next April

NEW YORK (AP) — Author-illustrator Brian Selznick's next book is for teens and up.

Selznick's coming-of-age love story, "Run Away With Me," will be published next April, Scholastic announced Thursday. Set in Rome and centering on an Italian teen named Angelo and an American teen named Danny, Selznick's novel will feature over 100 pages of illustrations and more than 200 pages of prose.

"I lived in Rome for nine months with my husband during the pandemic, where new friends introduced me to their favorite parts of the ancient city. I marked everything on a map, and quickly imagined two boys connecting the locations while falling in love," Selznick said in a statement. "Soon, stories about other young men, in other eras, started to appear to me, making a tapestry of love that has been present throughout all of time. I wanted Danny and Angelo and my readers to remember that we've always existed, and loved, and found moments of joy."

Selznick, who turns 58 this weekend, is known for such children's favorites as "Wonderstruck" and "The Invention of Hugo Cabret." Scholastic is calling "Run Away With Me" a young adult novel, for ages 12 and up.



This book cover provided by Scholastic shows Brian Selznick next novel "Run Away With Me." The coming-of-age love story will be published next April, Scholastic announced Thursday, July 11, 2024

Associated Press

Pogacar closing in on third Tour de France title after dominant win in the Alps

As the finish line approached, Tadej Pogacar looked over his shoulder and saw an empty road.

Moments later, he was a giant step closer to clinching a third de France Tour title by winning another tough mountain stage on Friday. Pogacar pulled away from Jonas Vingegaard to be 5 minutes, 3 seconds ahead of his main rival with two days left.

"Now I have a good lead," Pogacar said. "I will do the last two days of the Tour on the roads where I have trained my entire professional career."

The Slovenian looks almost certain to reclaim the Tour crown from Vingegaard, the two-time defending champion from Denmark, and in doing so secure the Giro d'Italia and Tour de France double.

Behind a fading Vingegaard sits Tour debutant Remco Evenepoel of Belgium, who is 7:01 adrift in third place.

Pogacar attacked with about nine kilometers (six miles) left on the final climb of 16 kilometers (10 miles) to the Isola 2000 ski resort. Vingegaard could not follow as Pogacar chased after the Dane's Jumbo



Stage winner Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, bows when crossing the finish line of the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 144.6 kilometers (89.9 miles) with start in Embrun and finish in Isola 2000, France, Friday, July 19, 2024.

Associated Press

Visma teammate, Matteo Jorgenson. The American rider was alone in front with Richard Carapaz and Simon Yates just behind him. Carapaz and Yates were caught by Pogacar, leaving just Jorgenson ahead. He was overtaken with two kilometers left as the UAE Team Emirates leader soared to his fourth stage win this month — holding up four fingers to the fans — and 15th Tour stage victory

of his career.

"As I approached the last two kilometers, I felt a little drained. I still caught Richard Carapaz and Simon Yates and I could catch up with Matteo Jorgenson," Pogacar said. "When it was time to pass him, I pushed as hard as possible to overtake him with speed. He was very strong today, as were all the guys in the breakaway. Hats off to them."

After four hours in the saddle, Pogacar raised both hands in the air as he crossed the line. Jorgenson was 21 seconds behind and Yates 40 seconds back in third. Carapaz was 1:11 back in fourth spot.

"I knew today's last climb very well. With the team, we planned it well and we did exactly as we said," Pogacar said. "Our race was 100% perfect."

Evenepoel placed fifth

ahead of a disconsolate Vingegaard, with both riders timed at 1:42 behind Pogacar.

Saturday's 20th and penultimate stage stays in the southern Alps and features three hard category 1 ascents, the last taking the riders up Col de la Couillole.

The Tour ends on Sunday on the French Riviera with a time trial from Monaco to Nice, and not in Paris as it usually does because of the Olympic Games.

Friday's high-altitude stage may have been Vingegaard's last chance to take significant time back from Pogacar.

Two of Vingegaard's Visma teammates Jorgensen and Dutchman Wilko Kelderman positioned themselves at the front of a small breakaway and set a strong pace in hot conditions.

The 145-kilometer (90-mile) trek featured two huge climbs known as "hors categorie" (beyond category).

The first came early in the stage, up Col de Vars, and the second just after halfway, to Cime de la Bonette, France's highest road at an altitude of 2,802 meters. □

Cubs' Seiya Suzuki excited for return to Tokyo Dome for Japan series vs Dodgers in 2025

CHICAGO (AP) — A 9-year-old Seiya Suzuki sat in the stands of the Tokyo Dome with eyes peeled on New York Yankees outfielder Hideki Matsui as he warmed up for a game against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2004.

It marked the second time a Major League season opener was played in Tokyo, and Suzuki's first opportunity to see his hero in a Yankees uniform.

"I never thought that I would be the one to open the season in Japan as a Major Leaguer," said Chicago Cubs' outfielder Suzuki through a translator on Friday.

Suzuki will follow in Matsui's

shoes and return for the league's sixth installment of the Japan series in 2025. He'll be joined by Japanese-born Cubs' pitcher Shota Imanaga for two games against the Los Angeles Dodgers in the Tokyo Dome on March 18-19.

Suzuki and Imanaga hope the series has a Matsui-esque impact on the Japanese fans in attendance.

"I'm really excited for it. I'm hoping that the Japanese fans enjoy it over there," Imanaga said through a translator. "I want to prepare so I'm not an embarrassment or anything for them."

Suzuki was a five-time all-star across nine seasons in

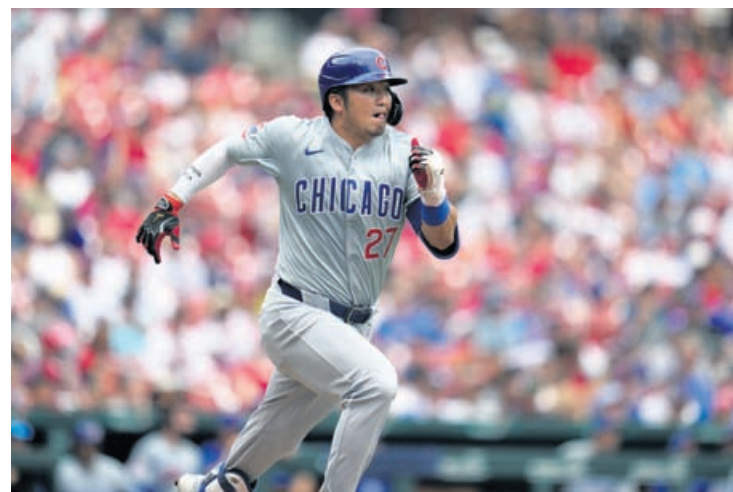
Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball League (NPB) before signing a five-year deal with Chicago in 2022. Imanaga, a two-time NPB all-star over eight seasons in Japan, signed with the Cubs this offseason. Imanaga was the team's lone representative at the All-Star Game on Tuesday, when he tossed one scoreless inning.

With years of playing experience in Japan, Suzuki and Imanaga have built close bonds with other Japanese-born players. Shohei Ohtani and Yoshinobu Yamamoto of the Dodgers are a pair they know well.

"With the Japanese players facing each other, there's

gonna be a tension regardless of if it's here or there," Imanaga said. "I think they're going to enjoy it."

Suzuki remembers how loud the Tokyo Dome can get with the cheering and instruments. □



Chicago Cubs' Seiya Suzuki heads to first on an RBI single during the third inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals Sunday, July 14, 2024, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

Shane Lowry keeps calm and carries British Open lead at Troon

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

TROON, Scotland (AP) —

Shane Lowry found himself in a familiar position in the British Open, even if it required a detour that could have rattled him on a wild day Friday at Royal Troon. Lowry took what seemed like an eternity to make a double bogey on the 11th hole. He recovered with two birdies over the final three holes for a 2-under 69, giving him a two-shot lead as the second round headed for a conclusion. And now he gets to wait even longer before he plays again, a product of being in the lead and among the late starters on the weekend with the silver claret jug he won five years ago at Royal Portrush coming more into view.

He was at 7-under 135, two shots ahead of surprise 18-hole leader Daniel Brown of England (72) and Justin Rose (68). Lowry shared the 36-hole lead when he won at Portrush in 2019.

"Look, I'm going to have a very late tee time tomorrow. I'm not going to be playing for another 24 hours. I know what that's about," Lowry said. "I know tomorrow is going to be a long day, but I've done it before. For me, it's just about going out and play-



Tiger Woods of the United States waves as he walks to the 18th green during his second round of the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Troon golf club in Troon, Scotland, Friday, July 19, 2024.

Associated Press

ing my own game, shooting the best score I can. Try not to worry about what other people are doing and just trying to take care of your own personal stuff."

It was best to keep blinders on at Royal Troon. There were some harrowing scenes.

Justin Thomas, who opened with a 68 to get himself in the mix, shot a 45 on the front nine and played his best golf from there to salvage a 78 and make sure he at least made the cut.

Robert MacIntyre had an even tougher start. Scotland's biggest star after winning his national Open last week, MacIntyre was stuck in pot bunkers and high grass. He was 8 over for his round through four holes — four holes! — and then put together a big fight on the back nine in a bid to make the weekend.

Aguri Iwasaki had them all beat. He took a 9 on consecutive holes and shot 52 on the back nine for a 91. One of those 9s was on the

par-3 14th, where he took four shots out of two bunkers and once had to go backward toward the fairway.

Tiger Woods missed another cut in a major — that was one of the few surprises because he opened with a 79 — but left his mark by tying his own mark with his highest 36-hole score as a pro with 156. The only time he had a higher 36-hole score was at Bay Hill in 1994 when he was a senior in high school.

Woods had company in leaving early. Rory McIlroy, who started with a 78, needed a good start and got a triple bogey on the par-5 fourth hole. He barely moved it from high grass, chipped from more rough into a bunker and missed a 4-foot putt.

Masters champion Scottie Scheffler missed all that calamity. He put together another steady round of 70 — three birdies, two bogeys and the rest pars — and joined the group at 2-under 140. He was five shots behind Lowry as he chases his second major of the year.

Joaquin Niemann of Chile managed another 71 despite taking a quintuple-bogey 8 on the par-3 eighth hole — the Postage Stamp — that measures a mere 123 yards. He was in three bunkers around the tiny green and three-putted when he finally got out of them. Niemann also made six birdies in a most remarkable round of level par.

So much chaos across the century-old links, and it looked for a brief moment like Lowry might take part. It took so long to play the 11th hole that Jordan Spieth in the group behind him walked over to the side of the fairway and sat down near a gorse bush to wait. □



Trainer Bob Baffert stands for a photo ahead of the Breeders' Cup horse races at Santa Anita in Arcadia, Calif., Oct. 27, 2023.

Associated Press

By GARY B. GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) —

Churchill Downs has rescinded its extended suspension of Bob Baffert, allowing the Hall of Fame trainer to resume racing his horses at

the historic track and partner facilities after more than three years of banishment for a failed drug test of 2021 Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit.

The stunning announcement came Friday after

Churchill Downs lifts suspension of trainer Bob Baffert following Medina Spirit's failed drug test

Baffert issued a statement in which he took responsibility for now-deceased colt Medina Spirit's failed drug test after crossing the finish line in the 147th Kentucky Derby in May 2021. Kentucky racing stewards ultimately disqualified Medina Spirit the following winter, and Churchill Downs elevated runner-up Mandaloun to Derby winner.

Churchill Downs said in a release that it was satisfied for Baffert taking responsibility while completing the penalty and committing to compliance.

"All parties agree that it is

time to bring this chapter to a close and focus on the future," the release added. "Baffert is welcome to return to any of CDI's race-tracks, including our flagship Churchill Downs Racetrack, and we wish him and his connections good luck in their future competitive endeavors," Churchill Downs Inc. CEO Bill Carstanjen said in the statement.

Baffert frequently criticized the ban and had unsuccessfully sued Churchill Downs, which last year extended the ban to the end of 2024 for subsequent criticism. Medina Spirit's owner,

Amr Zedan, had sued for the trainer's discipline to end this spring in an effort to get his horse into the 150th Derby. In accepting responsibility, Baffert acknowledged that he had paid a "very steep price" with the suspension and disqualification while assuming responsibility for substances in any horses that he trains. He also said he appreciated that the track and the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission enforcing the rules believed necessary to protect the safety and integrity of horse racing and the reputation of the Kentucky Derby. □